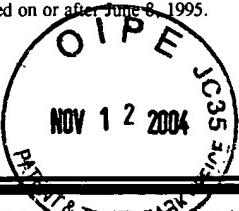


# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for the continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.



Application Number	09/376,308
Filing Date	August 18, 1999
First Named Inventor	YAMAMOTO, et al.
Group Art Unit	2876
Name of Examiner	Karl D. Frech
Attorney Docket No.	990934

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar 20, 2000) 1233 Off. Gazette Pat Office (April 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission Required Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other Petition to Request Withdrawal of Patent Application From Issue

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a.  Suspension of Action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (period shall not exceed three months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
  - ii.  Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Check in the amount of \$920.00 is enclosed (\$790.00 for the RCE and \$130.00 for the Petition to Request Withdrawal of Patent Application from Issue).

**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

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Atty Docket No.

**990934**

**SIGNATURE BY APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name **William L. Brooks** Registration No. **34,129 (atty/agent)**

Signature  Date **November 12, 2004**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name

Signature